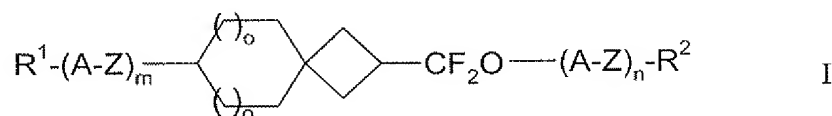



This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Cyclobutane derivatives of the formula I



in which

R^1, R^2 are identical or different and each, independently of one another, denote H, halogen (F, Cl, Br or I) or a linear or branched, optionally chiral alkyl or alkoxy radical having 1 to 15 C atoms which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by halogen and in which one or more CH_2 groups may each be replaced, independently of one another, by $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CO}-$, $-\text{O}-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$, $-\text{CH}=\text{CF}-$, $-\text{CF}=\text{CF}-$, $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ or  in such a way that heteroatoms are not linked directly to one another, $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{SCN}$, $-\text{NCS}$, $-\text{SF}_5$, $-\text{SCF}_3$, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{CF}=\text{CF}_2$, $-\text{CF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{OCF}_3$, $-\text{OCHF}_2$, $-\text{CF}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_3$ or $-\text{OCH}_2\text{CF}_2\text{CHFCF}_3$,

A is identical or different and in each case, independently of one another, denotes

- a) trans-1,4-cyclohexylene, in which, in addition, one or more non-adjacent CH_2 groups may be replaced by $-\text{O}-$ and/or $-\text{S}-$ and in which, in addition, one or more H atoms may be replaced by F,
- b) 1,4-phenylene, in which one or two CH groups may be replaced by N and in which, in addition, one or more H atoms may be replaced by halogen (F, Cl, Br or I), $-\text{CN}$, $-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{CHF}_2$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{F}$, $-\text{OCH}_3$, $-\text{OCHF}_2$ or $-\text{OCF}_3$,

c) a radical from the group bicyclo[1.1.1]pentane-1,3-diyl, bicyclo[2.2.2]octane-1,4-diyl, spiro[3.3]heptane-2,6-diyl, naphthalene-2,6-diyl, decahydronaphthalene-2,6-diyl, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene-2,6-diyl and piperidine-1,4-diyl, or

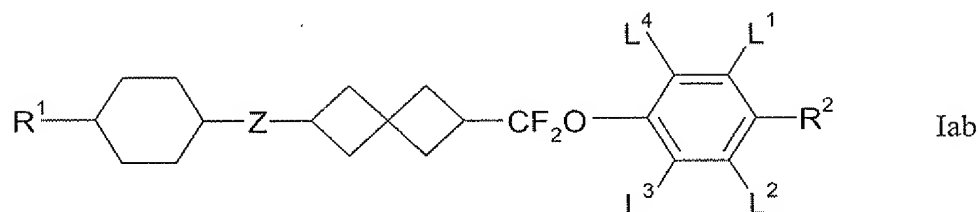
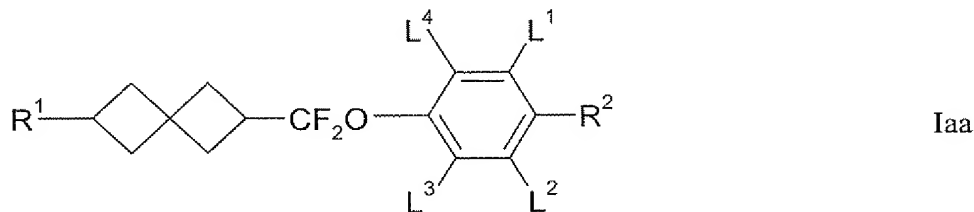
d) 1,4-cyclohexenylene,

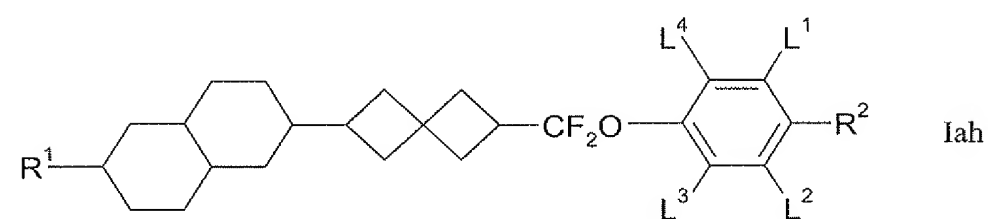
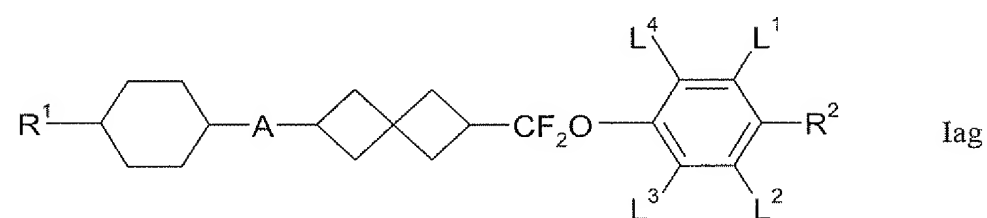
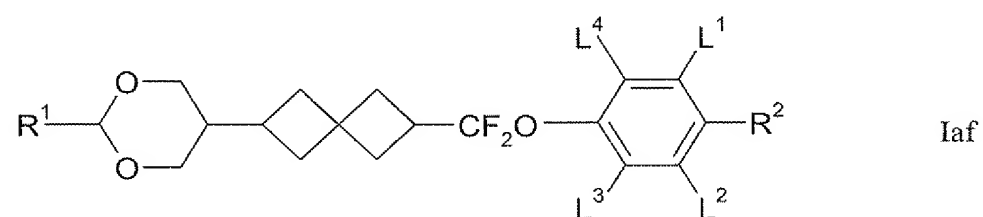
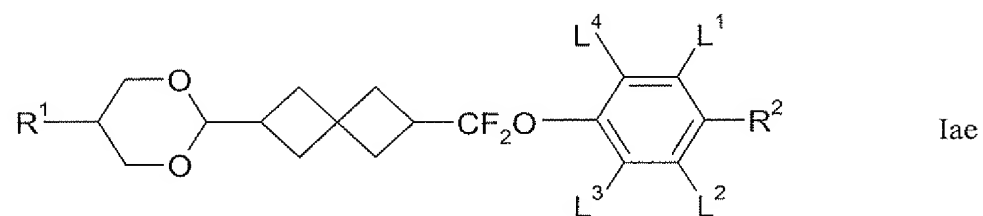
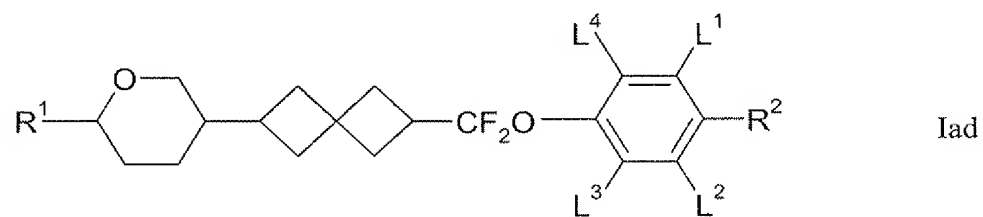
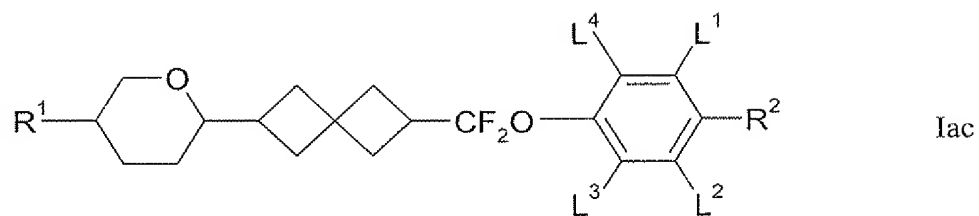
Z is identical or different and in each case, independently of one another, denotes -O-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CF₂O-, -OCF₂-, -CF₂CF₂-, -CH₂CF₂-, -CF₂CH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH=CH-, -CH=CF-, -CF=CH-, -CF=CF-, -CF=CF-COO-, -O-CO-CF=CF-, -C≡C- or a single bond,

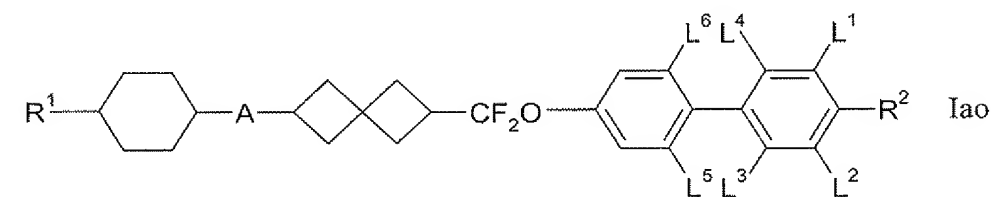
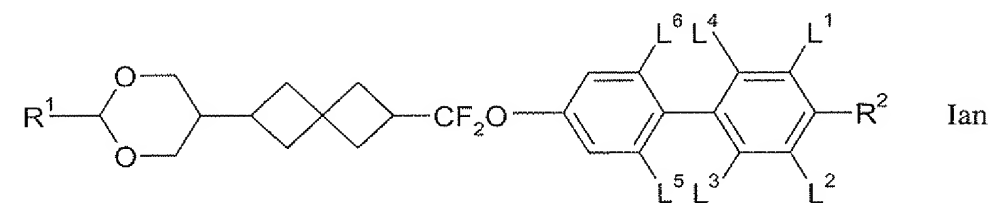
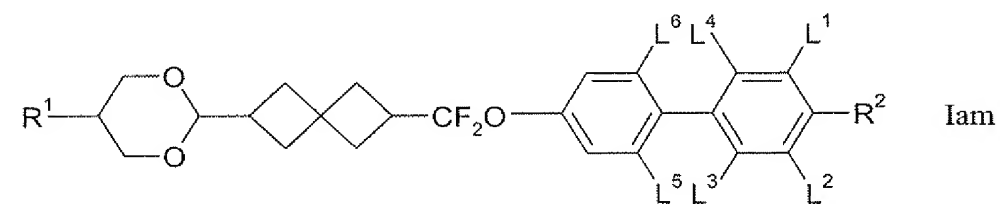
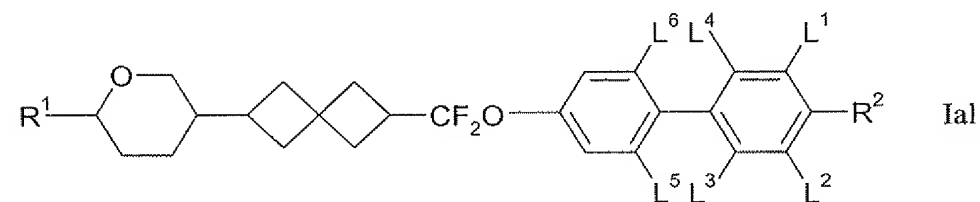
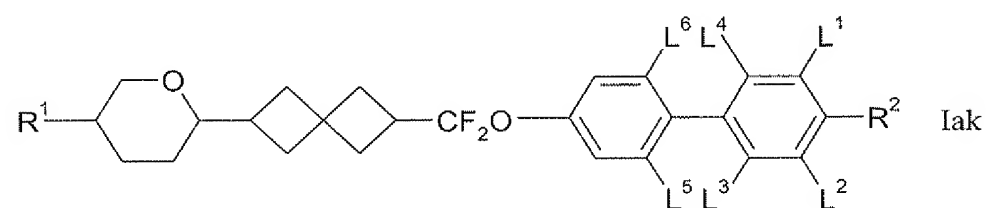
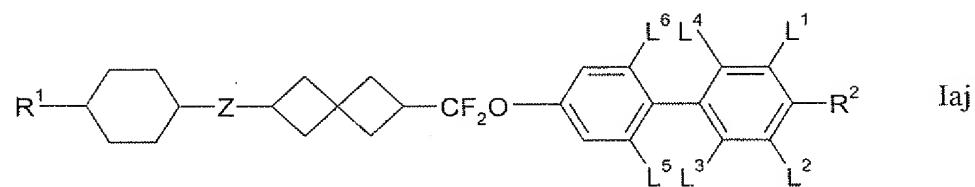
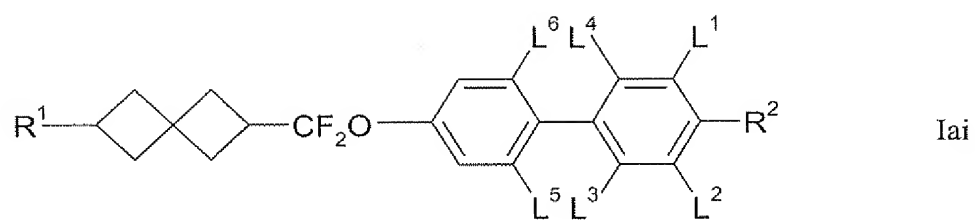
m, n are identical or different and, independently of one another, denote 0, 1 or 2, and

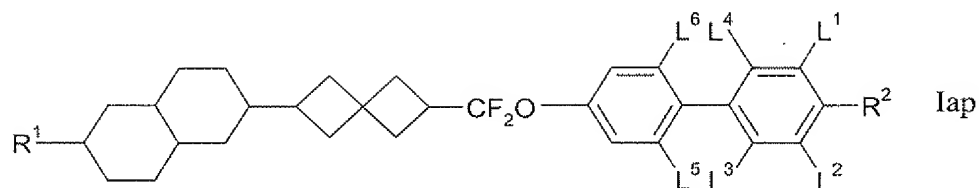
o denotes 0 or 1.

2. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ both o denote 0.
3. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ both o denote 1.
4. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 2, having ~~characterised in that they have~~ one of the following formulae:



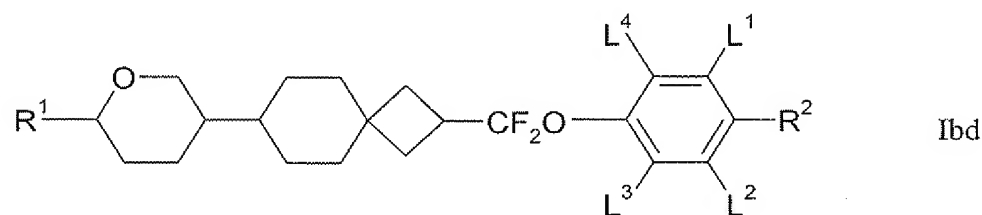
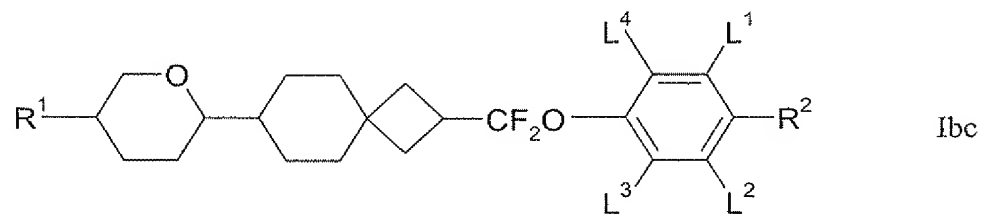
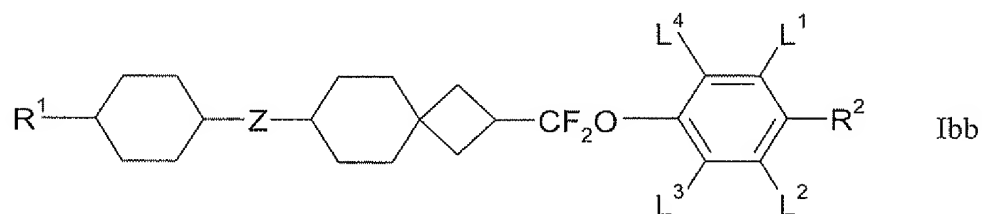
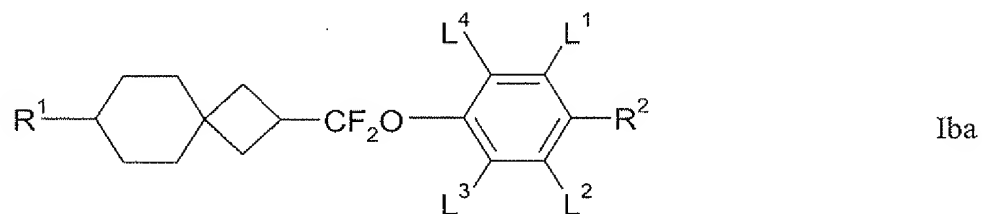


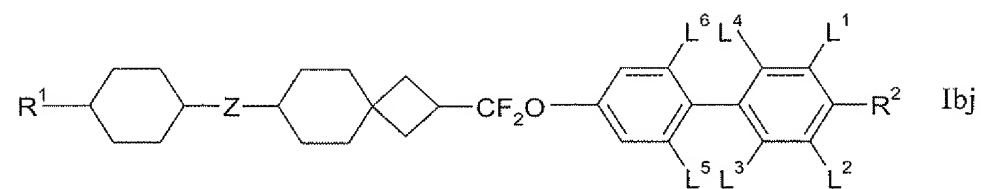
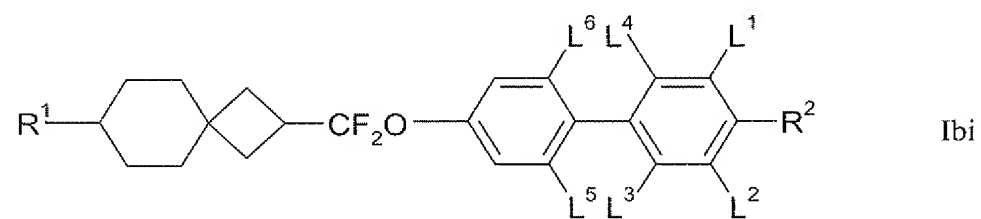
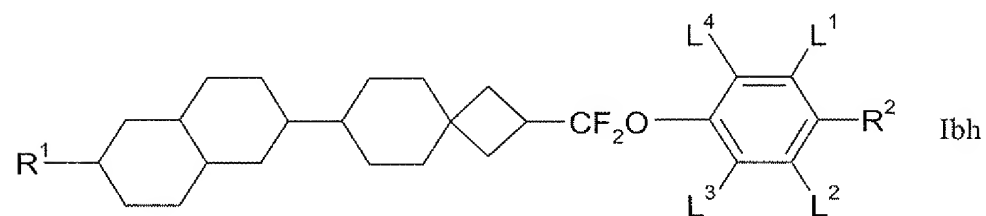
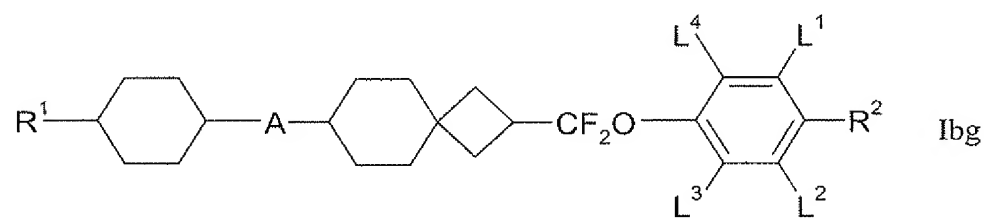
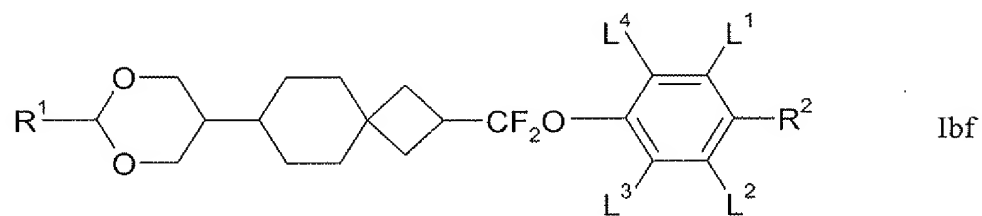
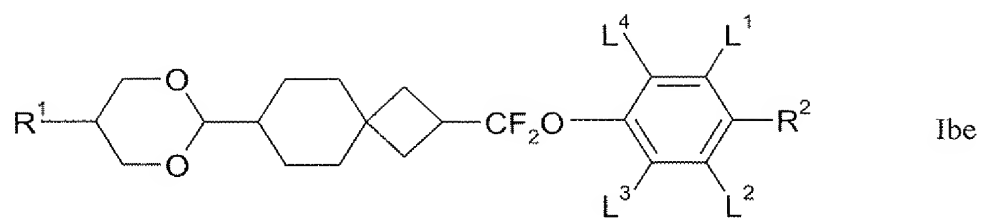


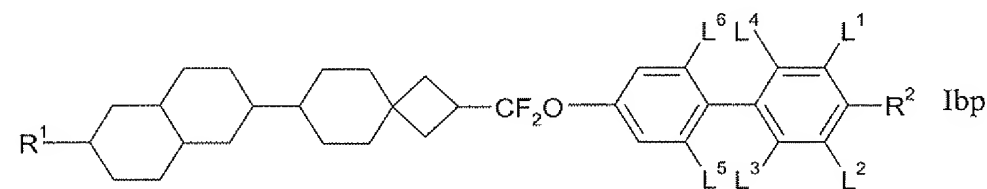
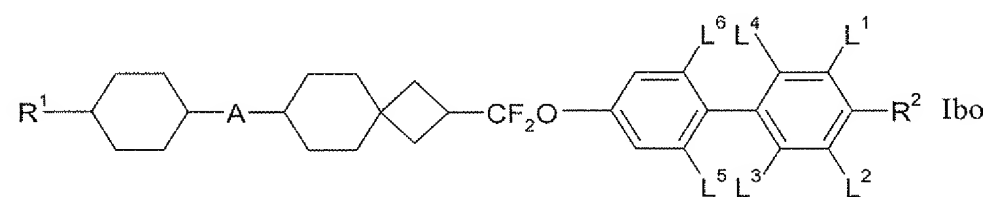
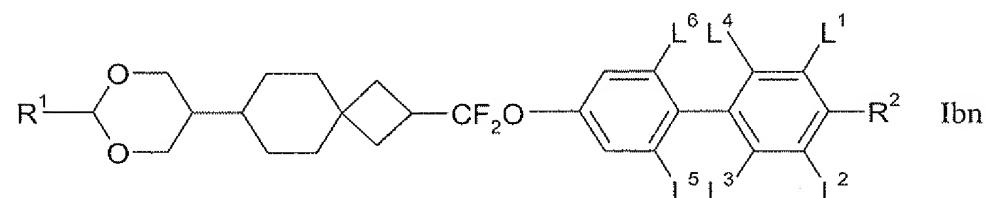
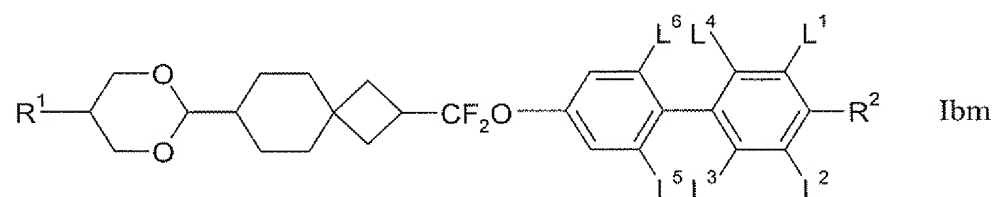
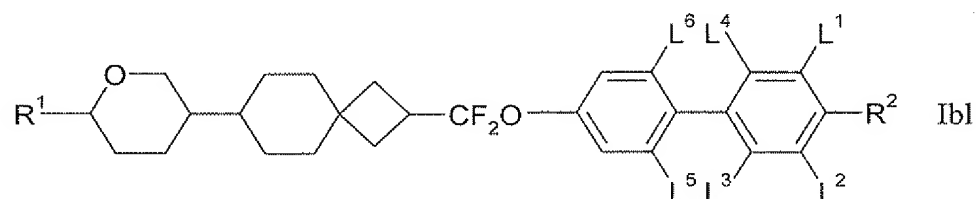
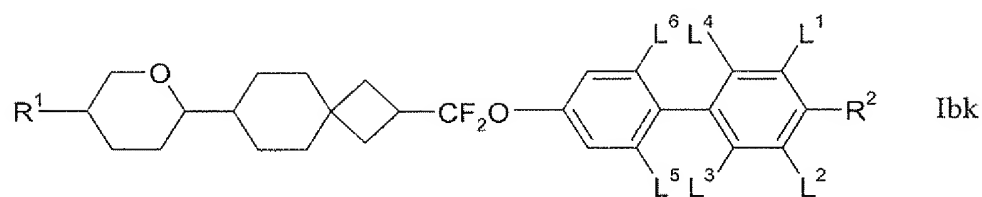


in which L^1, L^2, L^3, L^4, L^5 and L^6 , are identical or different and, independently of one another, denote H or F.

5. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to Claim 3, having characterised in that they have one of the following formulae:







in which L^1 , L^2 , L^3 , L^4 , L^5 and L^6 , are identical or different and, independently of one another, denote H or F.

6. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to at least claim 1, characterised in that R^1 denotes H or a linear alkyl radical having 1 to 10 C atoms.

7. (Currently Amended) Compounds according to claim 1, characterised in that R^2 denotes H, a linear alkoxy radical having 1 to 10 C atoms, -F, -Cl, -CF₃, -OCF₃, -OCHF₂, -CN, -NCS or -SF₅.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently Amended) Liquid-crystalline medium having at least two liquid-crystalline components, wherein at least one component ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ at least one compound of the formula I according to claim 1 wherein.
10. (Currently Amended) Liquid-crystal display element, ~~characterised in that it contains, as~~ containing a dielectric, which dielectric is a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 9.
11. (Currently Amended) Reflective or transfective liquid-crystal display element, ~~characterised in that it contains, as~~ containing a dielectric, which dielectric is a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 9.
12. (Currently Amended) Electro-optical display element, ~~characterised in that it contains, as~~ containing a dielectric, which dielectric is a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 9.